JENNY DWORZAK

NIH – Oxford/ Cambridge Scholar 2008

Degrees: University of Washington, B.S. Biology, 2008

Research Interests: Neuroscience



Jenny Dworzak graduated from the University of Washington with a Bachelor of Science in Biology with departmental honors and a minor in Microbiology in June 2008, at age 19. While an undergraduate student at the University of Washington, Jenny conducted research on the role of mitochondrial dynamics in cortical neuronal apoptosis under the mentorship of Dr. Richard S. Morrison in the Department of Neurological Surgery. Her honors thesis, "Drp1-mediated Suppression of Mitochondrial Fusion Prevents DNA-Damage-Induced Apoptosis in Postnatal Cortical Neurons," received the John and Dorothy Franco Award for top undergraduate research paper in the Department of Biology. Jenny was also actively involved in the UW's chapters of Alpha Epsilon Delta Premedical Honors Society and Tribeta Biology Honors Society. Her academic achievements earned her the University of Washington Undergraduate Award, President's Education Award for Academic Excellence, Washington State Honors Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement, a standing on the University of Washington's annual Dean's list, and induction into the national Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Eta Sigma honor societies for accomplished scholars. She was also awarded internships with several distinguished physicians in the Seattle region, including the University of Washington's Healthcare Alternative Spring Break rural healthcare experience. In June 2006, Jenny graduated with high honors from Bellevue Community College, where she earned her Associate of Science Degree. While at Bellevue Community College, Jenny served as Vice President of Phi Theta Kappa, the International Honor Society of the Two-Year College. In addition, Jenny volunteered in the OR, PACU, and BICU/PICU of the University of Washington and Harborview Medical Centers. She also rowed with Sammamish Rowing Association, figure skated as a member of Seattle Skating Club, competed nationally as a fine arts contestant, and captained the 2005 national championship Teen Bible Quiz team. As a MD/PhD NIH/Oxford scholar, Jenny currently attends Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York. She will subsequently pursue D.Phil. training in neuroscience at the University of Oxford, where she plans to investigate functional motor recovery post-CNS injury.